

Prevalence and Detection of *Ureaplasma urealyticum* and *Mycoplasma hominis* in Endocervical Specimens from Women with Genitourinary Tract Diseases in Iran

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Keywords: *Ureaplasma urealyticum*; *Mycoplasma hominis*; Genital mycoplasma; Genitourinary tract diseases

Background: *Mycoplasma* can be isolated with considerable frequency from the female urogenital tracts. *Ureaplasma urealyticum* and *Mycoplasma hominis* are important genital mycoplasmas and known as sexually transmitted agents, causing mainly urethritis, pelvic inflammatory disease, spontaneous abortion, pyelonephritis, infertility, stillbirth, low birth weight, neonatal meningitis, and neonatal pneumonia. The aim of this study was to evaluate the incidence of *Mycoplasma* infections in women of reproductive age.

Methods: Vaginal and cervical specimens were collected from 130 women, aged between 20 and 50 years, who referred to our laboratory during a 12-month period. Every woman was tested for the presence of *Mycoplasma* with culture method. Endocervical and vaginal swab samples were taken from patient, and transported with mycoplasma transport media then filtered and cultured on H&U agar. Isolates tested for *Ureaplasma urealyticum* and *Mycoplasma hominis* with urea and arginin hydrolysis respectively.

Results: Of the 130 patients studied, 29(22.33%) were positive for *U.urealyticum* and 37(28.4%) were positive for *M. hominis*. 25(18.4%) of patients presented both organisms or both genital mycoplasmas. The highest prevalence of both organisms was seen in the married women in 21–30 age group.

Conclusions: In our study there is a expected prevalence of genital *Mycoplasma*. Because of the potential adverse effects of mycoplasmas on the success rate of highly specialized infertility treatment, and its causal roles in several maternal complications of pregnancy and in neonatal morbidity and mortality, the detection of mycoplasmas in women could be important and necessary.

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22.003

Prostatitis-like Symptoms: Prevalence and Impact on Quality of Life in Kenyan Youth Aged 16–19 Years

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This study examined the prevalence of chronic prostatitis-like symptoms and quality of life (QoL) in community dwelling Kenyan youth aged 16–19 years ($n=166$) using the National Institutes of Health Chronic Prostatitis Symptom Index (NIH-CPSI). Prostatitis symptom impact on QoL was examined using pain and urinary symptoms as well as depressive symptoms (Patient Health Questionnaire; PHQ) and demographic information. All participants were registered and attending secondary school

reported having total pain domain scores of 4 or greater. Using a prostatitis-like symptom case identification the sample prevalence was 13.3% and 9% using a conservative estimate removing males endorsing pain or burning during urination as a potential indicator of STIs. Further, 5.4% of the sample reported moderate to severe prostatitis symptoms which was reduced to 2.4% when urination pain is removed. Multiple regression analysis showed that school district ($\beta=.20$), depressive symptoms ($\beta=.18$) and pain ($\beta=.36$) predicted poorer QoL and that urinary symptoms did not ($\beta=.11$). These findings are discussed in light of the current prevalence data, clinical implications and future research.

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22.004

Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention: Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Among School Pupils in Rural Ghana

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Background: STD-prevention education programs for adolescents should take into account sex differences. However, limited data are available on how adolescent boys and girls differ in knowledge, attitudes, and practices regarding STD prevention. This study was conducted to examine sex differences in the Kassena-Nankana district, Ghana.

Methods: Secondary data analysis of a cross-sectional KAP survey of sexual and reproductive health conducted among junior secondary school pupils in the Kassena-Nankana district in 2005. Responses from 3,011 schoolboys and 3,214 schoolgirls aged 10–19 years were analysed using StataTM version 9.0 software.

Results: The study found that all school pupils had unsatisfactory knowledge about STDs, although boys tended to be more knowledgeable than girls. In terms of attitude towards condom use, a higher percentage of boys (70%) felt confident about insisting on condom use whenever they have sex compared with girls (61%). However, boys were more likely to be involved in sexual risk behaviors than their female counterparts. Eighteen percent of boys and 8% of girls reported being sexually experienced. Boys started having sex earlier than girls (at 14.5 years compared with 15.1 years). Sixty-two percent of boys had ever had sex with two or more sexual partners compared with 32% of girls. The average number of lifetime sexual partners of boys and girls was 4.2 and 2.5 respectively. The percentage of youth reporting non-use of condoms during the last sexual intercourse was higher in boys (37%) than in girls (29%). Differences between boys and girls were observed in the association of knowledge and attitudes regarding STD prevention with sexual activities.

Conclusion: Results from the study show sex differences in knowledge, attitudes, and practices regarding STD pre-